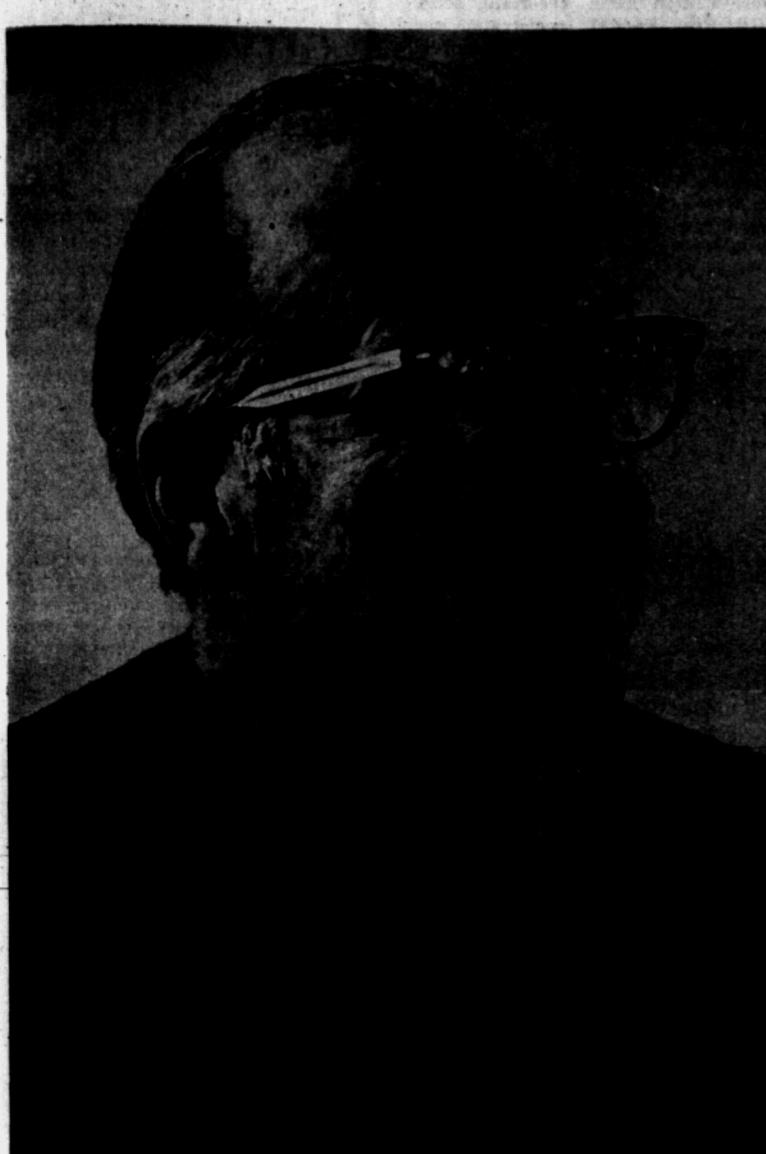


First Mississippian Is Elected President Of SBC



OWEN COOPER

Owen Cooper, Yazoo City Layman, Leads Convention

PHILADELPHIA (BP) — Owen Cooper, an industrialist from Yazoo City, Miss., was elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention here, becoming the first layman to head the 11.8 million member denomination in 13 years.

Cooper, president of the Mississippi and Coastal Chemical Corps., a farmer's cooperative fertilizer group, defeated James Coggins of Fort Worth in a runoff election. Coggins is pastor of Travis Avenue Baptist Church, Fort Worth.

The messengers selected Cooper, outgoing chairman of the SBC Executive Committee, from among five nominees to serve for the one-year term.

Cooper will take over the denominational reins from Carl Bates, pastor of First Baptist Church in Charlotte, N. C., at the close of the annual meeting of the Convention Thursday.

In his first news conference, Cooper expressed his views on a wide range of topics ranging from abortion to the inspiration of the Bible.

He started out by predicting that laymen will be highly involved in the next upsurge of Christianity, and will become much more active in his own denomination.

There is a growing awareness for the greater involvement of laymen in the denomination," he said. He cited the efforts to involve laymen of the SBC Brotherhood Commission, the Home Mission Board, the Foreign Mission Board, and the Sunday School Board.

"My role is to support these efforts now underway among the agencies."

The possibility of a merger of the Southern Baptist Convention and the American Baptist Convention looked dim to the new president.

"I do not foresee the day when the two denominations will come together. But I don't have the longest range of vision into the future. I do see a time when we will be working together in more programs."

Asked about liberalism in the SBC, Cooper quipped that he would like to

(Continued On Page 2)

Banish Moral Blight In America-Graham

PHILADELPHIA, June 7 — Evangelist Billy Graham called on Southern Baptists here Wednesday night to light a candle which will banish moral and spiritual blight in America and roll back racism and social injustice.

When Graham stood to address Southern Baptist Convention messengers, he was blinded by a lightning

Graham Coming to Jackson

Billy Graham, who has been invited to return to Jackson for a Crusade by a group of Jackson religious and civic leaders, told Purser Hewitt, the executive editor of The Jackson Clarion-Ledger in Philadelphia last week that he had decided to accept the invitation.

While no date was set, Dr. Graham said in the Clarion-Ledger story several days ago, that it would be in about two years.

galaxy of flashbulbs syncopated by shutter clicks.

A packed house of more than 14,000 gave their fellow Baptist a standing ovation while Graham quipped, "You should shoot a man before he gets up. It'll be too late when he starts."

Then, immediately serious, he reported that a man armed with a hand grenade had been discovered near Vice President Spiro Agnew. "Shooting is a serious matter in this country."

Reminding that churches also need a fresh experience with God, Graham

I'm afraid somebody will take me for a politician."

With this opener, the famed evangelist swept the whole crowd into his amen corner, alternately sermonizing, admonishing, and entertaining with ready wit.

In the challenge to messengers to the annual meeting of the 11.8 million member denomination, Graham also pointed to the need for a renewed faith in the Scriptures and a new dedication to missions and evangelism.

Central theme of the address was the need for individuals, churches, and denominations — Southern Baptists in particular — to "go to the mountain" for spiritual renewal with God, and "return to the valley" with a disciplined sharing of faith to end the problems of mankind.

He admonished the Baptists to remain flexible, open to new methods, sensitive to leading of the Holy Spirit, appreciative of the moving of God among young people, and aware of the reality of the devil in the world.

"It is easy for those of us who speak of God often not to experience God afresh. Spiritual dryness can set in so that while we continue to go through the motions of our religious life, there is no feeling present. The world in which Christ has called us to live and minister and witness is one that drains us of spiritual energy and leaves us feeling empty."

Reminding that churches also need a fresh experience with God, Graham

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Convention Refuses To Withdraw Bible Commentary-Acts On Numerous Matters

By Roy Jennings

PHILADELPHIA (BP) — Declining to move to a more conservative theological stance, Southern Baptists rejected a motion to withdraw a 12-volume Bible commentary, elected a Mississippi layman president, approved a record \$33 million dollar budget and spoke out on 22 issues.

Between lengthy business sessions of the three - day meeting at Convention Hall, the 13,000 messengers from 50 states heard challenges from a battery of speakers which included Evangelist Billy Graham, Baptist astronaut James Irwin, SBC President Carl Bates, former American Baptist Convention president Roger L. Fredrickson, Houston pastor E. Hermon Westmoreland, and Philadelphia pastor Leon Sullivan.

For even more variety the messengers viewed spectacular presentations on home and foreign missions and on the history of the Baptist movement from early developments in the city where it met.

Messengers offered 29 resolutions on a plethora of subjects. The convention accepted 22, combining them into 15 position statements.

The adopted statements were on anti - semitism, offensive movies and television programs, religious liberty, right of dissent, world peace, Christian commitment, prayer for astronauts, alcohol and drugs, welfare, prayer for Chinese Christians, tax reform, and Christian citizenship.

The messengers defeated a resolution condemning a U. S. war in substance on conscientious objection and tabled another on amnesty. They qualified the resolution on world peace with an amendment stating the war should end only when independence and self government of the South Vietnamese are attained and American prisoners of war are released.

In a resolution on ending the war in Indochina, the messengers urged the reallocation of military expenditures into humanitarian projects.

Owen Cooper, an industrialist from Yazoo City, Miss., was the first laymen messenger named to head the 11.8 million member denomination since 1959 and the fifth since 1900.

Cooper, president of Mississippi Chemical Corp., a fertilizer manufacturing firm, defeated James Coggins, pastor of Travis Avenue Baptist Church of Fort Worth, Tex., in a runoff.

Coggins was elected first vice-president and G. W. Bullard of Philadelphia, superintendent of missions for the Delaware Valley Baptist Association, second vice - president.

In an interview shortly after his election, Cooper predicted laymen would be highly involved in the next upsurge of Christianity.

The Christian witness will find greater reception in the non - religious community if lay people are a part of it, Cooper said.

Commenting on his selection as president, Cooper said he didn't know

qualified, but that he was bringing a commitment and a will to fulfill the objectives of the convention. He is the outgoing chairman of the SBC Executive Committee.

Cooper said he believes in the inspiration of the Bible but not the inspiration of any commentaries. He advised Southern Baptists to read commentaries with an open mind.

The 1973 budget totaled \$33,042,506, up almost \$2 million from the previous year. It included operating funds of \$31,826,184, with the remainder in capital needs.

Messengers approved 15 recommendations of their Executive Committee, including holding the 1977 convention in Memphis, Tenn., on June 14 - 16, but balked at absorbing the Stewardship Commission into the Executive Committee.

Supporters of the recommendation said they wanted to put the agency under the Executive Committee to reduce competition for operating monies among agencies.

Program changes broadening the missions assignment of the SBC Brotherhood Commission and defining the service role of the Radio and Television Commission were accepted without debate.

Three bylaw changes designed to improve the transaction of business by messengers within the structure of the convention were approved.

The bylaw which drew the most

debate called for a two - thirds vote by messengers before a motion dealing with the internal affairs of an agency could be considered at the same convention. Opposition spokesmen thought two - thirds was too harsh and proposed a simple majority.

Keenest debate at the convention centered on a proposal by Gwin Turner, a Los Angeles pastor, to withdraw the 12-volume Broadman Bible Commentary, select new writers, and rewrite it from a more conservative theological viewpoint.

Turner said the commentary was out of harmony with the spirit and letter of the statement of Baptist Faith and Message approved at the 1963 meeting of Southern Baptists in St. Louis.

Acknowledging the commentaries had much good material, Turner said some writers have attributed error to the Bible. He cited a half dozen references which he said documented his claim.

The proposal lost after former SBC president Herschel H. Hobbs, pastor of First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City, claimed Turner had overlooked the preamble to the statement of faith which identifies the contents as merely a guideline.

"No man alive today could write a commentary on the Bible with which all Southern Baptists would agree entirely," Hobbs said. He contended

Turner's request sought to make a creed out of the statement of faith.

Pointing to the preamble dealing with safeguarding the individual conscience, Hobbs contended there was more to Turner's request than a set of books.

"This motion strikes at the very heart of basic principles dear to every Baptist heart," said Hobbs, who served as chairman of the committee which drafted the 1963 statement.

A plea for messengers to put aside theological debate in deference to the spiritual welfare of people was summed up in the presidential address of Carl E. Bates of Charlotte, N. C. Bates, pastor of First Baptist Church, reminded messengers determined to have theological and ecclesiastical sameness in the denomination that they had two choices, join another denomination or deny basic democratic principles to fellow Baptists.

Categorizing denominational workers theologically, Bates put them right of center in Christendom and declared "it would be wrong to try to commit our agencies to either extreme."

While the convention drew about 13,000 messengers, far below the record of 16,978 in New Orleans, 1969, more than 14,000 persons filled every seat and stood in the doors to hear Graham call them to a renewed faith

(Continued On Page 2)

Southern Baptists Still Conservative

An Editorial Report

(While this is the editor's evaluation report on the convention, he does expect to write some other interpretative comments later. They will appear in subsequent issues.)

Much Baptist history is written in the annals of the City of Brotherly Love, Philadelphia, Pa. Pa. It is a record with some conflicts, but with greater achievements.

Southern Baptists added to that history last week, when they assembled in the city for the first time. Their presence followed the pattern of the past. They experienced some conflict, but were greater in their accomplishments.

Tragically, however, interpreters may make more of the conflicts, than of the accomplishments, and in so doing will lose sight of the fact that the first Southern Baptist convention ever held in the state of Pennsylvania actually was a good meeting, and well may go down in history as a great one.

The main conflict came over the Broadman Commentary, although there also were some minor skirmishes. The latter, however, were not unusual, since Southern Baptists seldom have a meeting without some debate. The commentary threatened to be a serious issue. It has caused sharp division in the annual meeting for the past two years.

Many Southern Baptists are convinced that the Sunday School Board erred when it projected

the commentary, and especially when it designed that set to be a scholarly set, presenting a theological view which is not acceptable to a great percentage, and probably the majority, of Southern Baptists.

The issue came to a head in Denver when the messengers voted to request that Volume I of the set be rewritten from a more conservative point of view. The Board is now carrying out that request, and the commentary on the book of Genesis is in the process of being rewritten.

Some of our fellowship, however, felt that other sections of the commentary were equally unacceptable, and announced several weeks ago that a move would be made at the Philadelphia meeting to recall the entire commentary, and to instruct the Sunday School Board to set in motion plans for writing a new one projected from the conservative point of view.

When this announcement was released to the press, and in material mailed to the preachers, strong opposition arose, especially from much of the denominational press, and it quickly became evident that the move would be soundly defeated.

That is exactly what happened, for when the issue was raised in the first business session on Tuesday, and set for discussion later in the day, it was handled quickly, and overwhelmingly defeated. The vote was at least three to one, and

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Over 13,000 filled the Philadelphia Civic Center for the SBC as President Carl Bates delivers keynote address in opening session.

The Convention Refuses To Withdraw Bible Commentary

(Continued From Page 1)
in the scriptures and a new dedication to missions and evangelism.

Graham said he felt Southern Baptists need a fresh experience with God, a sensitivity to the problems of men, and to move out to the world in the power of faith.

In a news conference Graham dealt with a variety of subjects, while reaffirming his high regard for President Richard Nixon.

Graham called Nixon an effective, dynamic president who is doing some courageous things many other presidents weren't able to do.

The evangelist expressed opposition to abortion, except in the cases of rape and when the health of the mother is involved. He also opposed antisemitism, but added this statement:

"Some rabbis are disturbed, and maybe confused, by the number of young people accepting Jesus and retaining Judaism. A vacuum has developed in the Jewish community and the young people are turning to Jesus."

On alcohol, Graham said he was "a teetotaler in America because alcohol is one of our greatest problems."

"I'm absolutely convinced that Jesus drank wine — and that may shock some Baptists. I don't think the Bible teaches total abstinence."

Astronaut Irwin, who replaced President Nixon on the program, told of experiencing God on the moon during his Apollo 15 trip and of his plans to enter full time religious work now that he has resigned from the space program.

Irwin said astronauts have received an overwhelming amount of mail support for their expressions of Christian testimony.

In the annual sermon which keyed noted the convention, E. Hermon Westmoreland, minister-at-large of South Main Baptist Church of Houston, urged Southern Baptists to reassess the value they place on a care-free life and find real freedom under the divine discipline of Jesus Christ.

"The only freedom worth having is the freedom which Christ offers. It is freedom under his yoke and under his divine discipline."

Messengers asked Dotson M. Nelson, pastor of Mountainbrook Baptist Church of Birmingham, Ala., to preach the annual sermon at the next meeting in Portland, Ore. Alternate preacher is Charles Trentham of First Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tenn.

Frederikson, a leading American Baptist exponent of evangelism from Sioux Falls, S. D., cautioned Southern Baptists to expect a radical shakeup in their churches when they rediscover evangelism.

The radical claims of Christ will turn away those persons who have come to be entertained, to get free bread, or to become a part of a respectable club, he predicted.

Roger L. Frederikson, a pastor, said Jesus is inviting Southern Baptists to proclaim the gospel in the world of the black-jacketed bike gang, the cocktail party at the country club, the meeting at city hall, and at the high school basketball game.

Leon Sullivan, pastor of the 6,000-member Zion Baptist Church of Philadelphia, called on Southern Baptists to help halt the downside of reaction which is dividing white and black people.

"Black parents must quit teaching white hatred to their children, and white parents must cease instructing their children in white supremacy," Sullivan said.

The black minister asked for support of a black self-improvement organization, Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC), of which he is founder and chairman.

Messengers received reports from 20 agencies and organizations, including the Brotherhood Commission which featured an account by James Rowles Jr., a Hickory, N. C., pastor, about a couple from his church who were shot to death recently while trying to minister to a young prisoner.

In his first appearance as the new executive secretary of the missions agency for men and boys, Glendon McCullough disclosed he plans to lead the agency in exciting and innovative

directions.

"I'd rather have a short, exciting time than a dull, long one. Nothing else will challenge our three million laymen."

During the annual report of the Sunday School Board James L. Sullivan, executive secretary, announced he was changing the title of his doctrinal reader to manuscript analyst to describe the assignment more accurately.

In other action, the messengers re-

fused to order the Baptist Program, their monthly magazine for pastors and other church staff workers, to print a special article presenting the denomination's point of view of biblical inerrancy by a competent conservative scholar.

The messengers asked the Executive Committee to consider a request to reschedule the annual convention when more laymen could attend.

The Executive Committee also was instructed to consider upgrading the Home Mission Board's Evangelism Di-

vision to commission status and the Sunday School Board to consider providing certain literature to mission churches.

Proposals to change the name of the Southern Baptist Convention and to revise the election procedure for president and vice-president were ruled out of order because of an inadvertent parliamentary error. Both involved constitutional changes and needed to be considered before the last day of the convention.

Messengers re-elected three Nash-

ville men to convention offices. They were Clifton Allen, recording secretary; Fred Kendall, registration secretary, and Porter Routh, treasurer.

Members of the Executive Committee named Stewart B. Simms, pastor of First Baptist Church of Greer, S.C., as their new chairman, replacing Cooper. They chose R. F. Smith Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church of Durham, N. C., as vice chairman and asked Mrs. Ned King of Dallas, Tex., to serve another one-year term as secretary.

Convention News Briefs

PHILADELPHIA, June 7 — Seventeen exhibits among the 58 on display at the Southern Baptist Convention here were commended by the Baptist Public Relations Association. Exhibits were judged in categories according to cost and were rated on the basis of attention command, imagination, theme application, and educational value, said Catherine Allen, past president of the organization. Winners in the least expensive category were first place, Seminary Extension Department; second, Home Mission Board interfaith witness department; third, Sunday School Board People to People Project. In the second most inexpensive category winners were first, Union University, second, Home Mission Board church extension department; third, (tie) Ouachita Baptist University and Stewardship Commission. The third category winners were first, Brotherhood Commission; second, Radio and Television Commission; and third, administrative services section of the Baptist Sunday School Board church administration department. Winners in the most expensive category of exhibits were first, Home Mission Board; second, the six seminaries; and third, Foreign Mission Board.

PHILADELPHIA, June 7 — John W. Dowdy Jr. of Kansas City, Mo., was elected president of the Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Alumni Association at a luncheon Wednesday at Hotel Sheraton. Other officers chosen were John Hackworth, Bolivar, Mo., vice-president and Robert Perry, Excelsior Springs, Mo., secretary. The luncheon program, which was a tribute to retiring president Millard J. Berquist, included testimonies from Midwestern graduates who spoke of their appreciation of the seminary's first president.

PHILADELPHIA, June 7 — Stewart B. Simms, pastor of First Baptist Church of Greer, S. C., was elected chairman of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention here Wednesday. Simms succeeds Owen Cooper of Yazoo City, Miss., layman who was named president of the convention Tuesday.

PHILADELPHIA, June 6 — James L. Pleitz, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Pensacola, Fla., was elected president of the trustees of the Radio and Television Commission Tuesday at the agency's luncheon meeting here.

"When you begin making room for the young people and the women, the older people are crowded out and they don't like it.

"However, I noticed a very large number of young people introducing resolutions yesterday at the Convention."



Dr. Brooks Wester, pastor, First Hattiesburg, introduces one of the recommendations of the Executive Committee, SBC, of which he is a member.



E. Hermon Westmoreland, pastor emeritus of South Main Church, Houston, preached the Convention sermon. He was at one time pastor in Leland, Miss.

Behind The Microphone



Elton Trueblood addresses the WMU Convention, Academy of Music.

Owen Cooper, Yazoo City Layman, Leads Convention

(Continued From Page 1)
stand a Southern Baptist liberal beside some liberals of other denominations and see how liberal that Southern Baptist really looks.

"I do not think the Southern Baptist Convention is in any danger of being overcome by liberalism in the classic sense," he added.

He said he did not favor the withdrawal of the Broadman Bible Commentary. The previous day, the convention defeated a motion that would have recalled the 12-volume set because it was allegedly out of harmony with the views of most Baptists.

Saying he was against abortion on demand, Cooper added he felt the New York abortion law is too liberal, allowing abortion up to 24 weeks after conception. He expressed "very grave doubts" about abortion when life in the fetus is clearly established.

He supported a resolution that was adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention last year in St. Louis which favored abortion in cases of rape, incest, clear evidence of severe fetal

deformity and carefully ascertained evidence of the likelihood of damage to the emotional, mental and physical health of the mother."

Asked if he supported a resolution introduced the previous day on the Vietnam war, Cooper replied: "This convention is in order to speak on any subject it wants to. Whether I thought it should or not, they'd go ahead and do what they wanted anyway."

He took a firm stand on airline hijacking, saying "piracy has reared its ugly head" and "the only way to deal with piracy is to act firmly on it." He opposed in principle those countries which openly welcome skyjackers who endanger the lives of 375 people.

Cooper said he supported a motion made the previous day proposing that the SBC President serve a single one-year term and the vice president become president-elect. A president could serve two years with effectiveness under such a system, he said.

On the possibility of a denominational name-change, Cooper said he believed the issue was dead for a reasonable length of time but that it could revive from time to time.

Cooper said he favored equal opportunities for blacks and followed

that practice at his company. When blacks become more numerous as members of Southern Baptist churches, he said he felt attention should be given to creating employment for them in the denomination.

"They should be considered for any job without regard to bias or color," he said.

Cooper saw a need for more young people to participate in the activities of the denomination but was skeptical of a dramatic transition because of structure.



BAPTIST "SUMMIT", Four Baptist presidents are caught by the camera at the Philadelphia Civic Center. They are (from left), Mrs. R. L. Mathis, president of Women's Missionary Union Carl Bates, outgoing president of the Southern Baptist Convention V. Carney Hargrove, president of the Baptist World Alliance and Joe Burnette, president of the Religious Education Conference. They met just prior to the opening session of the 84th annual meeting of WMU.

BMC BIBLE CONFERENCE CANCELLED

Plans for a Bible Conference on the campus of Blue Mountain College, July 10-14, have been cancelled, according to Dr. W. Douglas Hudgins, Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

Unanticipated difficulties and conflicts on the part of pastors in the northern section of the state made the decision necessary, Dr. Hudgins added.

Superintendents of missions in that area and those who had pre-registered have been notified and arrangements with the college have been terminated.

WMU Illuminates Missions; Re-Elects Mrs. Mathis President

PHILADELPHIA (BP) — Southern Baptist women flashed a new light on world-wide Christian missions at the annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union here prior to the Southern Baptist Convention.

Speakers include Astronaut James Irwin, Quaker philosopher Elton Trueblood, former SBC President W. A. Criswell and a battery of missionaries.

The women elected Mrs. R. L. Mathis, Waco, Tex., to a fourth term as president. Mrs. Roy Snider, Camden, Ark., was re-elected secretary.

For the first time in its 84-year history, WMU not only considered missions at home and around the world, but also learned of the effect of moon exploration on missions.

Irwin, a Baptist layman from Houston, related his counter with God while on the moon as Apollo 15 lunar module pilot and his experiences since which have made him an apostle of missions.

Knox Stevens, who had attended every convention since 1907, and believed to have the longest continuous record of any messenger at the convention, was introduced.

Irwin will quit the space program August 1 to enter full time religious work.

"I now see my mission as one of sharing not only the scientific discoveries caused by space travel but the need for man to live on the spaceship called earth in peace. Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace. He shows us the way to live. He is the only hope for peace in this weary land."

In his address on the opening night of the two-day meeting, Irwin gave a personal testimony of his moon flight.

"The thing that thrilled me most was that I could feel God's presence on the moon. When we faced unexpected problems, I prayed to him and the answer came."

"I came back stronger in my faith," he said in a second address. "I have been able to tell people that I feel the power of their prayers on the moon. I believe that prayer has a unifying effect upon all mankind. I have found that man's faith strengthens immeasurably as he witnesses to others."

Since his return, Irwin has distributed Bibles in communist countries,

spoken in churches, led his parents to be baptized and participated in a number of special religious meetings.

Irwin presented the WMU a Christian flag which went to the moon on an Apollo flight in gratitude for the WMU's "great work of projecting the holy light throughout the world."

Theme for the WMU sessions was "Freedom's Holy Light." The first session drew a throne of 7,000.

Trueblood, of Richmond, Ind., singled out missions as the greatest Christian idea of the twentieth century.

He called the Southern Baptist denomination the most famous missionary force on this continent and urged the Baptists to go a step further.

"You have to be missionaries," he said. "You have to be missionaries yourselves. The church should be a society of missionaries. If the Southern Baptist Convention, with its great heritage of missions, would take the next step — that of believing that all are called and all are involved in missions — we would bring in a new Christian era."

McKinley, told of his children asking, "Daddy, are you afraid?" His reply was, "Yes, but I believe that God will take care of us."

Another missionary under fire who reported at the WMU meeting was a missionary doctor, Roy McGlamery of Gaza.

McKinley told of his children asking, "Daddy, are you afraid?" His reply was, "Yes, but I believe that God will take care of us."

Another missionary under fire who reported at the WMU meeting was a missionary doctor, Roy McGlamery of Gaza.

Though a fellow missionary, Mavis Pate, was fatally shot recently as she passed through a terrorist area, McGlamery said Southern Baptists have no thoughts of pulling their medical ministries out of the Middle East.

Home missionaries fielded three panels of workers in northeast United States who are conducting a variety of innovative ministries.

James Wright, who works with street gangs in Waterbury, Conn., told the women, "the ghetto is the

most open place to the gospel you can find today."

Robert Fling, Westchester, N. Y., drew a picture of multi-racial, multi-lingual congregations. His 68-member church conducts ministries to the deaf and teaches English to more than 40 Japanese.

Paul Glenn of Johnstown, Pa., told of rock bands and telephone-teletype communications networks for interpretation.

Samuel Simpson of the Bronx in New York described church-backed security patrols, sanitation campaigns, and efforts for urban renewal.

Eight other northeast missionaries also revealed approaches for reaching ethnic groups and for working with people of other faiths.

Crisswell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas, urged Baptists to continue to shed "holy light" around the world by sending missionaries and by combating communism.

Mission action, the Southern Baptist program of Christian ministries to persons of special need and circumstances, drew much attention from speakers.

Pastors Devour "Banquet"

By Theo Sommerkamp
PHILADELPHIA (BP)—About 5,000 delegates to the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference here were fed a wide variety of specialties cooked up by evangelists and other ministers during a "Banquet of Preaching."

Speakers concentrated on the centrality of the Bible, the approach of the Second Coming, the reliance on the Holy Spirit, and the need to stay on the main road that has made Southern Baptists the nation's largest Protestant denomination.

Later day soul food consisted of a vivid description of the Jesus Movement by an establishment pastor and a rousing revival message by the youth evangelist whose ministry last year helped lead 23,000 teen-agers to confession of faith in Christ.

A dash of spice was added by an evangelist who unexpectedly accused some professors, evidently in Baptist educational institutions, of using "academic freedom" to hide beliefs that run counter to Baptist doctrine. He predicted their ouster.

The "cooks" who served their special dishes ranged in age from the mid-20's to the mid-80's. If applause was the measuring stick, the audience found the meal to their liking.

Outgoing conference president, John Bisagno, pastor of First Baptist

Church, Houston, said he invited preachers and evangelists to speak and "turned them loose" with no assigned theme.

Conference participants showed approval of the fare by electing two speakers, Vander Warner and Frank D. Minton, as officers.

Warner, pastor of Grove Avenue Baptist Church, Richmond, succeeded Bisagno as president, and Minton, pastor of Tower Grove Baptist Church, St. Louis, was named vice president.

James L. Pleitz, pastor of First Baptist Church, Pensacola, Fla., was elected secretary-treasurer.

Evangelist Jerry Autrey of Houston, during a discourse on the Bible as the seat of authority, unexpectedly launched into a brief assault on the professors.

Autrey is the son of C. E. Autrey, former Southern Baptist Convention director of evangelism and a former professor of evangelism at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth.

Without naming people or institutions, Autrey said he didn't believe in academic freedom and accused some professors of using it to cover non-Baptist doctrines they espoused.

"Sometime we're going to find the way to remove people from our insti-

tutions who don't believe the Bible," he declared.

Charles D. Graves, pastor of Nichols Hills Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, said Baptist belief in the inspiration of the Bible is one reason Southern Baptists continue to prosper when many other denominations have declined.

James E. Coggins, pastor of Travis Avenue Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, said the Holy Spirit must empower those who preach. Minton said some of the old, mainline denominations failed when they departed from an evangelist approach. He said Southern Baptists must not stray from the proven way of evangelistic preaching and personal, door-to-door witnessing.

Jess C. Moody, pastor of First Baptist Church, West Palm Beach, Fla., told fellow pastors they have to take the Jesus Movement seriously. Churches must guide it and help finance it "to keep it on a New Testament course," he said.

The youngest speaker, 25-year-old Richard Hogue of Houston, said America's youth generation has tried out everything at least once, including sex, Satan cults, and drugs. "In this crazy generation, isn't it a miracle they're now trying Jesus?"

Final address of the one-day conference was brought by R. G. Lee of Memphis, Tenn., 85-year-old former SBC president.

Lee mapped the "highway to havoc" as lined with wickedness, criminality, abuse of sex, booze, materialism, godlessness, infidelity, modernism and neglect of the Bible.

He said, on the other hand, the highway to heaven has no roadside saloons, gambling casinos, X-rated movie theaters, burlesque shows, dance halls, red light districts and pornography book stores.

Baptist Men Named To Jamaican Senate

KINGSTON, Jamaica (BP) — Two Baptists have been sworn into the Jamaican Senate here, and one was elected Senate president.

The two are C. S. Reid, president of the Jamaica Baptist Union and pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Montego Bay, and A. G. R. Byfield, an educator and a deacon of the Jonestown Baptist Church.

Owen Cooper, well-known Mississippi Baptist layman and industrialist from Yazoo City, was elected president of the Convention, the first time a Mississippian has ever been so honored and the first time a layman has been elected to the presidency since Brooks Hays served in 1958-59.

Mr. Cooper was nominated by Jerry Clower, another Yazoo City



Evangelist Billy Graham, Convention speaker, (left) and Owen Cooper, Yazoo City, newly elected Convention president, are seen together.



Jerry Clower of Yazoo City is well known for his records about Mississippi.

Mississippians In Philadelphia



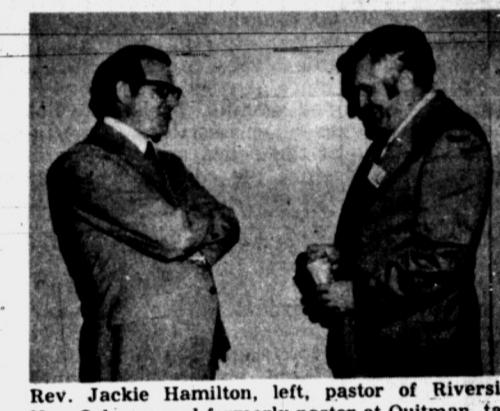
Rev. Dan Morton, pastor of First, Indianola, buys a book.



Rev. Barry Landrum, (right), new pastor of First Baptist Church, Greenville, is seen with Lee Porter, of Texas, (center) and Ed Young of South Carolina.



Rev. and Mrs. Sollie Smith of Bogalusa, La., former Mississippians, talk with Dr. Carl Bates, native of Mississippi, outgoing SBC president.



Rev. Jackie Hamilton, left, pastor of Riverside, New Orleans, and formerly pastor at Quitman, talks with Rev. Leon Young, superintendent of missions, Lauderdale County.

State People Prominent At Philadelphia Meetings

PHILADELPHIA (BP) — No Mississippian was scheduled to speak on the program of the Southern Baptist Convention in Philadelphia last week. Mississippians were quite prominent in the proceedings of the body before adjournment on Thursday night.

Owen Cooper, well-known Mississippi Baptist layman and industrialist from Yazoo City, was elected president of the Convention, the first time a Mississippian has ever been so honored and the first time a layman has been elected to the presidency since Brooks Hays served in 1958-59.

Mr. Cooper was nominated by Jerry Clower, another Yazoo City

and well-known humorist. Two former presidents of the Convention were natives of the state, although not listed as being from Mississippi at the time they were elected. These were Dr. E. Y. Mullins and this year's outgoing president, Dr. Carl Bates.

Mississippians named to Convention committees included the following:

Resolutions, Dr. Brooks Wester, pastor First Church, Hattiesburg; Committee on committees, Dr. David Grant, pastor of Broadmoor Church, Jackson, and Dr. J. T. Stingley, physician of Hazlehurst; Committee on Boards, Dr. Fuller Saunders, pastor of Woodland Hills Church, Jackson,

and Gene Triggs, Florence Layman, Committee on State Baptist Papers, Dr. Joe T. Odle, editor of the Baptist Record.

Mississippians beginning new terms or starting as new members of various Convention boards were named as follows:

SBC Commission on American Seminary, Dr. Wm. P. Davis, Jackson, of the staff of the Mississippi Baptist Seminary; Brotherhood Commission, Dr. John W. Flowers, pastor of First Church, Senatobia.

Owen Cooper, Convention president, was re-named to the North American Baptist Fellowship.

A resolution on "Yielding to the Lordship of Christ" was introduced by Rev. Don DeGarmo, pastor of Immanuel Church of Vicksburg.

A resolution was presented by Rev.

Francis W. Vriesen, pastor of Wayside Church, Vicksburg on "Quoting Portions of the Scripture in Published Literature."

David Grant, Jr., son of Dr. David Grant and Mrs. Grant, served as a page during the Convention.

Dr. Roy McGlamery, Southern Baptist medical missionary to Gaza, formerly of Ripley, but now on furlough and living in Jackson, was a speaker on the program of Woman's Missionary Union.

BULLETIN

Stories of the tragic flood disaster in Rapid City, South Dakota have created much concern in Mississippi, since the John Bakers, and other members of the Northern Plains Convention Staff, as well as some of the pastors and other people there, are widely known in this state.

We have been unable to make direct contact with the city, but have talked to other Northern Plains leaders who have had some contact.

From their reports, evidently all of the personnel is safe, the convention building was unharmed, and none of the churches were in the flood area. Apparently the pastors' and leaders' homes also were spared, although at the time of our reports—no one had been able to reach the residence of the Bakers, so could not report on that. The Bakers themselves were enroute by car from Philadelphia. Our informant stated, however, that he believed that their residence was some distance from the devastated area.

Ministers' Divorce Rate Increases, Women Told

PHILADELPHIA (BP) — The divorce rate among ministers and their wives is increasing at an alarming rate, marriage counselor Donald Moore of Wake Forest, N.C., told a luncheon meeting for Southern Baptist ministers' wives.

"The divorce rate in the United States is 41 per cent. This does not spare ministers and their wives. More and more ministers' families are breaking up," said Moore, director of counseling and associate professor of pastoral care at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest.

"The minister spends an average of 25 hours per week with his family. That's less than one-fourth of his waking hours. Those who have chil-

drren spend the same amount of time at home as childless couples or those whose children have already left home. This seems strange to me when you consider the Christian concept of the family," Moore told the women.

"The man who is indispensable too many hours a week may be playing God more than he should," Moore said.

Moore attributes the increase in marital difficulties to a decline in understanding between married partners and a loss of determination to stay married.

"There is also a development of an unrealistic view of love and marriage. On television there are less than 26 minutes to meet, fall in love, and get married," he remarked.

Moore listed mismanagement of available money, inlaws who become outlaws, sex, disagreement on the discipline of children, laziness, recreation, and religion as reasons given for divorce.

"Many pastors' wives ask me 'Do I have to go to church every time the door is opened?' When I tell them 'No,' then they say, 'Well, I wish you would tell my husband that!'"

Moore said unfaithfulness is mentioned more and more frequently as a cause of marital difficulties among pastors. "This includes emotional unfaithfulness as well as actual physical unfaithfulness."

"However, these are just symptoms of real problems. Down at the grass roots the things that really cause the

difficulty are emotional immaturity or unwholesome experiences with parents.

"The best way to prepare your child for marriage and parenthood is to show him a good marriage. This really needs to start with the grandparents, at least one generation ahead. So many parents are not showing a good example, and the child ends up in his own marriage acting out what he saw in his parents 25 years ago."

Moore urged the Baptist women to remember they are women and ministers' wives second.

Elected officers for next year were Mrs. Roy Babb of Nashville, Tenn., president; Mrs. James Landers of Dallas, vice president; and Mrs. Charles Jolly of Madison, N.J., secretary.

ASUNCION, Paraguay — Five churches were received recently into the fellowship of the Evangelical Baptist Convention of Paraguay; three of them the fruits of Brazilian Baptist foreign missions. Twenty-one churches are now associated with the convention.

SALZBURG, Austria — Fifteen young people registered decisions for Christ on the closing night of the annual Austrian Baptist young people's meeting here. Youths from Germany, Yugoslavia and England joined Austrians from seven Baptist churches; 225 young people attended the meeting. The decisions were made during a special service led by Southern Baptist missionary Bill Wagner and journalist Jerry Jones.



WMU officers are shown at the close of the morning session, Academy of Music. Left to right are: Miss Alma Hunt, executive secretary, WMU, SBC; Mrs. R. L. Mathis of Waco, Texas, re-elected to a third term as president of Woman's Missionary Union, SBC; and Mrs. Roy Snider of Camden, Ark., re-elected secretary. Members at large on the WMU Executive Board are Mrs. Huber Drumwright of Fort Worth and Mrs. Edward Byrd of Florence, S.C.

New Officers Elected



New officers, Religious Education Association, SBC, left to right are: John K. Durst of S.C., president; Luke Williams, Texas, president-elect; Robert Fullbright, Nashville, vice-president; William E. Young, Nashville, secretary-treasurer.



MINISTERS' WIVES ELECT OFFICERS: SBC ministers' wives, meeting at the Ukrainian Baptist Church in Philadelphia, have elected Mrs. Sam Shepard (left) as corresponding secretary and Mrs. Claud Bowen as president. Mrs. James Landers of Dallas, vice-president, was not present for the photo.



New officers for the coming year elected at the SBC last week in Philadelphia were, from left: Owen Cooper, Mississippi, president; James Coggins, Texas, vice-president, and G. W. Bullard, Pennsylvania, second vice-president.

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

EDITORIAL

Southern Baptists Still Conservative

(Continued From Page 1)
may have been as much as four to one.

It is this action, which may be pointed to by some as the most important action of the convention, which actually it was not. It also will be interpreted as a turn toward liberalism by the convention, and this also is not true.

Not Endorsement

While the action sounds like and will be interpreted as an endorsement of the commentary by the convention, it really was not that. Those who assume that, and base their future actions upon it, will be making an error.

The convention did not endorse a commentary, even though the action appears to be that. Instead, it simply rejected a move to recall that commentary after its production had been completed, and all volumes are now on sale, except the one which is being rewritten. There is a great difference in the meaning of these two statements.

If a poll were taken, I am convinced that it would be found that the majority of the messengers have not read the commentary. Furthermore, they would neither endorse nor accept the liberal interpretations concerning the inspiration, the miracles, etc., in it. However, these same messengers seemed to feel that since the set had been printed, and since nothing printed by the board ever is endorsed as the official position of the board or of the convention, and since the convention already had, on two occasions, expressed to the board its displeasure concerning liberalism in the publication, that now it was time to forget the matter and turn to other things. It evidently was on this basis, and NOT on the approval of the commentary itself, that most messengers voted against the withdrawal motion. I am convinced that this is true because I personally discussed the issue, after the vote, with many pastors and leaders from all across the convention, and asked the questions, "Why this vote?" and "What does it mean?" The answers I received led me to the above conclusion.

Concern

Of course, some pastors and leaders are deeply concerned about what the "endorsement" interpretation which is certain to come in some quarters, will do in causing more churches to withhold support from the Cooperative Program, and even to withdraw from the convention itself. This seems certain to happen. How serious it will be, remains to be seen.

It is our own conviction, however, that liberals will gravely err if they assume that the Philadelphia action gives them a green light to try to push more of their ideas into Southern Baptist thinking. We think they quickly will come to a rude awakening.

At the same time we think that the more conservative brethren also will err if they despair because they assume that the convention has aban-

doned the conservative position and completely embraced liberalism. This simply is not so, as was so clearly evidenced by later actions of the convention. Of course there are problems. We are a people with different views, but basically, the vast majority of Southern Baptists still espouse the middle of the road conservatism which long has characterized the convention.

Conservative Resolutions

The actions of the messengers in completely rejecting liberally oriented resolutions such as unilateral withdrawal from Vietnam, draft - dodger amnesty, and even recognition of the right of "conscientious objection" all are proofs that the convention has not turned to the left, or toward liberalism. Moreover, the convention did adopt resolutions supporting the President of the United States in his efforts to secure a just peace in Vietnam and for the world, and other conservative resolutions.

It is our opinion that Sunday School Board leaders correctly read the convention as not being a turn toward the left, and that there will be no move there to change literature and publications in that direction. The Sunday School Board has a most difficult task as it seeks to minister to such a broad spread of people with differing ideas, but leaders assure us that they seek to hold to the middle of the road conservatism in which they believe most Southern Baptists are found. We are convinced that the Philadelphia actions will not change their stance.

Recommendations

The messengers refused to accept a recommendation to dissolve the Stewardship Commission and place its work under the direction of the Executive Committee. One explanation of this action appears to be that the messengers wanted to see what the "Committee of Fifteen" (An Executive Committee special committee which is studying the whole Southern Baptist organizational structure) was going to do with other agencies before voting to eliminate this one. There may also have been some feeling that it had the appearance of centralization of power.

The convention also voted to ask for a study of giving the Evangelism Division of the Home Mission Board separate status as a convention Commission, thus properly recognizing the importance which Southern Baptists give to Evangelism.

Basic Principles

The messengers warmed to the basic Bible based principles and beliefs as enunciated from time to time by various speakers, and loudly applauded Anita Bryant when she said she was proud to be a Baptist because of their principles, and that she would leave the Baptists should they abandon them.

The convention did refuse to pass a motion left over from last year ordering the editor of a convention publication to print a rebuttal (or the other side) to an article considered by some

to be liberal. This also may be interpreted as a move to the left when actually we believe it simply was recognition of editorial freedom.

The convention refused to take extreme actions in areas of social action, and ecumenism was hardly mentioned during the meeting.

The greatest crowd was present to hear Southern Baptists' most famous member, Billy Graham, and were stirred by his appeal to light the world with the truth of the gospel of our Lord.

The convention cheered when Astronaut James Irwin revealed that his own witness to Jesus Christ began only after he became a Southern Baptist.

Earlier it had heard reports from its seminaries that their one purpose was to train men "called of God" to preach the gospel and to minister in the name of Christ in today's needy world.

The convention closed with a mission night which drew a great crowd to see and hear the appeal to witness to the salvation that is only in Jesus Christ, both in America and in nations to the ends of the earth. To see the march of the missionaries with the flags of the nation, and to look upon the newly appointed missionaries, just ready to go, is an experience that always lifts to high spiritual levels.

No Change

All of these experiences reveal that the Southern Baptist Convention has not changed, and that it did not take a new liberal stance in Philadelphia. Rather it seemed to rededicate itself to the same great witness to the Word of God and to the Lord Jesus Christ, that it has in the past. The one brief period of commentary discussion seemed to belie that position, but we do not believe that it actually revealed the true convention spirit.

If one had attended only the opening day's sessions he probably would have felt that a new trend of liberalism was rising. Attendance at the Wednesday and Thursday sessions would have revealed to him how untrue was that assumption.

Mississippi President

Mississippi's own Owen Cooper, the first Magnolia Stater ever to be elected to the office while living in the state, was chosen as president. He also is the first layman to be chosen to the office since 1960.

Those who know Cooper, realize his deep interest in missions and in enlistment of laymen in the active work of the church, and believe that the period of his leadership of the convention will see acceleration of emphasis in those areas.

We predict that the convention will continue to march forward like a mighty army under the banner of Christ, and that its continued emphasis will be in the realm of evangelism, missions, and spiritual enlistment and growth.

Southern Baptists are not about to abandon those things which have made them what they are.

leaving one religion for another, the message of this book is as timely today as it was in the first century. The author in discussing the epistle to the Hebrews graphically reveals the strong arguments used to persuade converts to return to the Jewish fold, "extolling the types and shadows of Judaism, and contrasts them with the far greater brilliance and glory in every detail of the Person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ."

THE WILDERNESS REVOLT by Diane Kennedy Pike and R. Scott Kennedy (Doubleday, 385 pp., \$7.95) The subtitle is "A New View of the Life and Death of Jesus" based on the ideas and notes of the late Bishop James A. Pike. The wife and brother-in-law of the late Bishop Pike have put together his materials and writings concerning his search for the historical Jesus. This is a view of a man who questioned such teachers as the Virgin Birth, the bodily resurrection, and many other fundamental truths concerning Christ. Rather he saw Jesus as an active revolutionary. Most Christians will not agree with the book but it will help bring understanding of the "liberal" point of view.

WHO IN THE WORLD? by Christians, Schipper, and Smedes (Wm. B. Eerdmans, 163 pp., paper, \$1.95) Who is the church of Jesus Christ? What should it be? How can it realize its true mission? The three authors of this book give some answers to those questions, drawn from the Bible, based particularly on Christ's description of himself as "the way the Truth and the Life." The book was written in an effort to aid individuals and congregations in their efforts to understand better who they are and what they ought to be doing.

ABORTION: THE PERSONAL DILEMMA by R. F. R. Gardner (Eerdmans, 287 pp., \$5.95). A Christian gynaecologist examines the medical, social, and spiritual issues involved in the present day problem of abortion. A careful study of all the problems involved in this tremendous issue.

THE BOOK OF WITNESSES by David Kossoff (St. Martin's Press, 175 pp., \$4.95). The author uses imaginary persons who might have come into contact with Jesus during his lifetime to give an interesting insight into some of the ways that our Lord's life might have affected people. The book is dif-

ferent and certainly presents a new approach to the Bible message.

THE CHINESE CHURCH THAT WILL NOT DIE by Mary Wang Gwin and Edward England (Tyndale, pocketbook, paperback, 201 pp., \$1.25). A Chinese woman, the daughter of a Christian pastor in China, tells the story of the church in China and what has happened to it since the Communism takeover. She says that the church in China has been silenced, but it is not dead. It will not die. Much of this story relates to experiences before the Communists forced the church to go underground. It is an unforgettable story of the power of Christ in the lives of suffering, persecuted people.

WRITTEN IN BLOOD by Robert E. Coleman (Revell, 128 pp., \$3.50) The author is a Professor of Evangelism at Asbury Theological Seminary. In this book he discusses the Bible's whole message concerning the blood, beginning in the Old Testament and moving to the Cross to the triumphant message of the church. He believes that redemption is through the blood and shows its necessity in God's redemptive plan.

FORTY DAYS TILL DAWN by Wesley Shrader (Word, 143 pp., \$3.95) The author uses fiction and imagination to present "Memoirs of the Apostle Paul." It is a fictional biography of the life of Paul. The forty days are the number of days Paul had to live before being beheaded after being condemned to death in his trial in Rome. During those days he writes his memoirs. While many of the things found here are very definitely based upon Scripture, there are some things which had to come from the author's imagination. However, the book is enlightening and is an interesting addition to the literature on the Apostle Paul.

NIGHT OF THE LONG KNIVES and other missionary adventure stories by Hugh Steven (Regal, 118 pp., pocketbook paperback \$1.25) A collection of missionary stories from Mexico, South America, Australia and other countries. These are brief stories and there are numerous illustrations. The book deals with children and the children of Wycliffe translators families.

ONE MOMENT, PLEASE! by Mort Crim (Warner Press, paper, 95 cents, 127 pp.) Unexpected cameos of everyday life laced with wit, insight, and compassion.



INTEGRITY STARTS IN THE HOME

THE BAPTIST FORUM

Praises

Governor And

Mrs. Waller

Dear Mr. Odle:

I would like to reply to the criticism of Governor Bill Waller reported in The Baptist record June 1, 1972. Having been pastor of Clear Creek Baptist Church, Oxford, Mississippi, Governor Waller's home church, I am well acquainted with the Waller family. My wife and I have eaten in Governor Waller's lovely home in Jackson on two occasions. I know Bill and Carole well, and my personal opinion of them is of the highest esteem. The integrity of their Christian lives is above reproach or attack. They are sincere servants of the Lord and the people of Mississippi.

It is ironic that we seek God's face in earnest prayer for spiritual leaders, and when God gives them, we judge, find fault, and criticize. The Gulfport Biloxi Daily Herald and Rev. Robert Self could do better. They could pray for Governor Waller. "I exhort, therefore, that first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings, and for all that are in authority . . ." (1 Tim. 2:1-2). This would be better than judgment.

Rev. Benny H. Garner
Pleasant Hill Baptist Church
Duluth, Georgia



Beyond the Ironing Board

Wilda Fancher

Last year about this time I wrote a column which began something like, "Help! Somebody left the schoolhouse door open and my children got out and came home . . ." Many of you identified with the hectic days of the "Annual Upheaval" involved in reprogramming family tempers and time for the summer days.

This year I have been behind the school door, so I'm saying this time, "Hooyah! Somebody left the schoolhouse door open and we all came home . . ."

I had been an adult inside the school walls before to help in temporary emergency situations when other teachers were unavailable, but this year I was there knowing it will be a part of my life for a while. You may be sure that summer looks a bit different when you're waiting for it from inside.

However, summer is summer from either side, and it serves the same purposes if we can just figure what the purposes are. For the teacher, at least for this teacher, it's a time to recharge the patience battery. I kept hoping my patience and school would run out at the same time, but I fear my patience ran out first.

I guess every family must decide what summer's for and then get busy about it. You'd never guess what one of my main projects is going to be. I've decided it's time the Fancher boys learn to cook good, masculine cooking that can get a boy or a family along when necessity arises.

Considering the rate of my progress when I decided it was time for the Fancher boys to learn to housekeep their own room, my upcoming project will take most of the summer, and I'll still be doing all the cooking next winter. — Address P. O. Box 9151, Jackson, Ms. 39206.

student representatives to appear before the board of trustees. In some rare instances students have actually been named to the board of trustees, with or without a vote; however, to date there is not a great deal of proof that this latter method is wholly satisfactory.

There is substantial evidence to indicate that schools which make it possible for students to have an appropriate voice in governance are less likely to have trouble. Solutions to legitimate problems and issues are not to be found in isolation but in structured dialogue, many times involving the whole academic community."

The quotation is from *An Orientation Manual for College Trustees* by Ben C. Fisher, executive secretary of the SBC Education Commission. This volume, now halfway through its third printing, is used also by several other denominations and certain public colleges.

The Education Commission presently assists several Baptist state conventions in an annual trustee orientation conference.

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EDUCATION... what's happening

While opinion is still somewhat divided on the extent and method, there is no question that student participation in governance is a fact accomplished in American higher education. Students serve effectively on faculty committees, and many institutions have found it wise to set up formal procedures for

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Everyone Had A Chance To Speak...



Gwin T. Turner, pastor, Mar Vista First Church, Los Angeles, and former Mississippian, presents motion on Broadman Bible Communion.



A messenger speaks from a floor microphone.



"STUDENTS SPEAK UP": College students, given a slot on the Southern Baptist Convention program, urged messengers to increase support of their efforts to reach students for Christ.

Banish Moral Blight In America-Graham

(Continued From Page 1)

said it was easy for a congregation to become preoccupied with self.

He charged that many Baptist churches have become like the fifteenth century Roman Catholic Church, believing that the grace of God comes only through proper forms and at proper times.

"Some people think God can only at 11 Sunday morning and 7:30 Sunday night," he suggested.

"We allow cultural, social and racial walls to separate us from the lost people for whom Christ died. We have become creatures of comfort."

Graham said the denomination needed a fresh experience with God, too.

"It is possible for a great denomination like this to be overtaken with old age. We can fall victim to the same hardening of institutional arteries, loss of creative vitality and detachment from the dynamic Spirit of God which afflicts other denominations."

"I believe the religious movements, like persons, seem to go through periods of youthful excess, mature strength, and senility."

In losing its vitality, the denomination can mistake the forms through which its early strength was expressed for the Spirit which gave those forms life, Graham explained.

"There is the danger that we substitute an intellectual system for a living faith, that we will hang on to dead forms of worship and evangelism rather than seeking for new and powerful instruments of communicating the faith."

Graham reminded the messengers that early Baptists led in developing many new forms of Christian expression, of which the evangelistic meeting was one.

"What a contrast to many of our Baptist churches today! For example, if a church drops an unproductive evening evangelistic service to spend more energy in new and effective forms of evangelism, many of our members are sure that the church has lost its faith."

Graham asked the messengers to take a look at what some other religious groups are doing in the area of evangelism and missions because "they have much to teach us."

"Many of the programs that are be-

ing utilized successfully in other groups could be adapted to the work of Southern Baptists. It just might be possible that God is using somebody else to develop ideas Southern Baptists can use. It just might be possible God uses other people besides Southern Baptists even though this takes a great deal of humility on our part to admit it."

Graham had just returned from Ireland. He predicted that Ireland may have a great spiritual awakening.

Stating that Irish hostilities are not basically religious but political and social, he said Ireland needed to go to the mountain.

As an example of the moving of God's Spirit in the world today, Graham cited the instances of President Richard M. Nixon attending a Baptist worship service while in Russia.

"Who would have thought that the President of the United States would have been seen in a Baptist church in Moscow singing 'What a Friend We Have In Jesus.'

On the light side, he added, "I'm staying out of politics this year. . . if I can."

"I really am," he insisted as laughter swelled. "But I was thrilled with Nixon for going, and I'm a registered Democrat."

Graham told the messengers they can expect some resistance from Satan when they begin taking the offensive in evangelism and missions.

"We are now witnessing a great spiritual awakening in America. We are also witnessing an intensification of Satanic power on a scale perhaps the nation has never known before: pornography, poverty, racism, prejudice, bigotry, sexual immorality."

In his call to action, Graham said Southern Baptists shouldn't spend their time cursing the darkness but to light a candle until a spiritual fire can be seen throughout the world.

"Let's light a candle of renewed faith in the Scriptures and a new dedication to missions and evangelism that will cause the devil to tremble," he said.

Press Conference

In a press conference earlier in the day of his message, Graham called President Nixon an effective, dynamic president who is doing some courageous things many other presidents weren't able to do.

Referring to the President's recent trips to China and Russia, Graham said President Nixon has upset all predictions persons made at the beginning of his term of office.

While acknowledging President Nixon as a close personal friend, Graham said he hasn't always agreed with everything the Administration has done.

"If I do have a criticism, I would make it in private and not announce it in public."

Asked about his stand on abortion, Graham reiterated he was against all abortion except in the case of rape and the health of the mother.

"I do feel we have lots of old abortion laws that need to be revised."

On the question of anti-Semitism, Graham announced his total opposition. He made this additional explanation:

"Some rabbis are disturbed, and maybe confused, by the number of young people accepting Jesus Christ and retaining Judaism."

Explaining his statement further, Graham said a vacuum has developed in the Jewish community and the young people are turning to Jesus.

Returning to his relationship with President Nixon, he discounted the claims he is a presidential advisor.

"He (the President) doesn't ask my advice on affairs of state. I've only seen him twice this year. I do talk to him on the phone once in awhile."

Graham, who said he is "going to try very hard to stay out of the political campaign," declined to answer questions on state aid to non-public schools and school busing to achieve integration policies.

The evangelist said he preferred to leave these issues alone until after the presidential election in November.

Graham said he had spent eight days in Ireland where he had met late at night with IRA leaders who were in hell."

The liberals used it to accuse the system as the real culprit, saying "We are all guilty."

"Religion is mobile and God wants it put on the road," he said.

Two workers with youth subcultures urged the religious educators to open up creative ministries to young people.

"If you're going to lead them, you have to get out there with them," said Fenton Moorhead, minister to the generation gap at First Baptist Church, West Palm Beach, Fla.

Don Rhymes of the SBC Home Mission Board, who formerly directed ministries to youthful drug abusers in Atlanta and New York, said Christians must be willing to get involved with the drug abusers at all levels of their need.

The total number of radio and television stations airing one or more programs produced and distributed by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission has increased an additional 113 in 1972 to bring the total number to a record 2,228.

A boy is the only thing God can use to make a man.

names he was pledged to not reveal.

He said, "One IRA leader talked for an hour before I opened my mouth. I learned a great deal which I am pledged to keep. I felt I was able to bear witness for Christ to them, and, I hope, a witness for peace."

Graham said he learned that the conflict in Ireland is not a religious war but goes far beyond religious issues.

Graham said he felt the people of Ireland, both North and South, have the possibility of becoming a spiritual super power in the world.

"They have a religious foundation and faith in Ireland that's tremendous."

Graham said he was considering a crusade in Dublin, but meeting space is limited.

The evangelist predicted a total

cease fire in Ireland very soon unless some unexpected developments occur.

"The peace in Ireland is so fragile that it's hard to predict. Only 10 days ago no one predicted officials would call for a cease fire."

In a second reference to the President's trip, Graham said he favored President Nixon's trips to Red China and Soviet Russia, because "we're living in a brand new world. . . one we no longer dominate."

"The President's goal is to keep the peace. His goal is to get out of Vietnam. When the North Vietnamese crossed the DMZ, he had to act fast to save another Dunkirk."

Graham said most major denominations in America are going to engage in evangelism during Key 73, and he hopes Southern Baptists will cooperate in it."



The Centurymen, pictured, sang during the Home Mission Board program presented at the SBC. In the foreground is a part of the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra, which played for The Centurymen and also in several other sessions of the convention.



Ukrainian Baptist Church Orchestra, Peter Tarnoviski, director, WHO Convention, Academy of Music.



Anita Bryant was a featured soloist.

SBC Educators Elect Durst

By Robert O'Brien

was re-elected secretary-treasurer. Several speakers urged the religious educators to lead church members to convert spiritual power into direct action.

"Compassion is more than a tingling sensation in the gizzard — it's something you do," said Peter Rhea Jones, assistant professor of New Testament Interpretation, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Christians, he said, must assume personal responsibility for and sensitivity to the hurts of others.

But he noted that both "liberals" and "conservatives" avoid personal responsibility in different ways.

"Liberals put it on a back burner and conservatives neutralize it."

He cited the controversial My Lai massacre as an example of liberal-conservative polarization.

"The conservatives said (Lt. William) Calley was innocent of the massacre, excusing him because 'war is hell.'

"The liberals used it to accuse the system as the real culprit, saying 'We are all guilty.'

"The liberal stance says bad systems excuse bad conduct. Conservatives say bad situations excuse bad conduct," Jones said.

"Both sides represent woolly thinking," he added. "If they are right we should throw out the court system in this country."

"What we must have are more truly converted people in Southern Baptist churches and institutions," said Carl E. Bates of Charlotte, outgoing SBC president.

"Don't you get tired of trying to make a fine omelet with 'rotten eggs?'" Bates asked in reference to church members who have not accepted the leadership of Christ.

"A casual or qualified commitment will not accomplish anything in attempt to minister to the world."

James D. Williams, associate professor of adult education at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, urged his listeners to conduct educational programs "which relate Christian faith to world problems."

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"A casual or qualified commitment will not accomplish anything in attempt to minister to the world."

Explaining his statement further, Graham said a vacuum has developed in the Jewish community and the young people are turning to Jesus.

Returning to his relationship with President Nixon, he discounted the claims he is a presidential advisor.

"He (the President) doesn't ask my advice on affairs of state. I've only seen him twice this year. I do talk to him on the phone once in awhile."

Graham, who said he is "going to try very hard to stay out of the political campaign," declined to answer questions on state aid to non-public schools and school busing to achieve integration policies.

The evangelist said he preferred to leave these issues alone until after the presidential election in November.

Graham said he had spent eight days in Ireland where he had met late at night with IRA leaders who were in hell."

The total number of radio and television stations airing one or more programs produced and distributed by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission has increased an additional 113 in 1972 to bring the total number to a record 2,228.

A boy is the only thing God can use to make a man.

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Names In The News

Rev. and Mrs. Stanley D. Stamps, missionaries to Ecuador, were scheduled to arrive in mid-May for furlough in the States. They were to be in Hillsboro, Tex., until June 15, after which they may be addressed at 921 Jackson Ave., Columbia, Miss. 38429. Stamps is a native of Prentiss, Miss.

Charley Pride, one of the best selling country-western recording artists in the music industry, will talk about his early life on a Mississippi farm, his baseball aspirations and his success in the music field when he appears as a special guest artist in the scrapbook corner of "Country Crossroads," SBC radio program. The Charley Pride segment of "Country Crossroads" will begin June 18 and is expected to continue for some six or eight weeks.

Darrell Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smith, Delta City, surrendered to the gospel ministry and was licensed at First Church, Delta City, June 11. He preached his first sermon on that day.

William Carey College mathematics professor, Dr. Gaston Smith, has been awarded a grant by the National Science Foundation to attend the 1972 Cooperative Summer Seminar. The study is sponsored by the Mathematical Association of America and is a 6-week program for thirty college teachers from across the nation in the area of mathematics. Dr. Smith will be accompanied to the seminar, June 19 - July 28, at Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts, by his wife and daughter.

Everett Sollie has joined the staff of First Church, Marion, as youth and recreational director for the summer. A graduate of Clarke College and now a senior at Mobile College, he has served as minister of music in Leaf River Church and Westwood Church in Meridian. While attending Mobile College, he is minister of music at Saraland Church, Saraland, Ala. During the summer he will be serving as youth and recreational director at Marion Church. He plans to study at New Orleans Seminary. Rev. Edsol Wells is pastor of First Church, Marion.

John Allen Butler, pictured, a native of Laurel, was ordained to the Gospel ministry, Sunday, June 4, at Brier Lake Church, Decatur, Georgia. Butler is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi and New Orleans Seminary. He is married to the former Kathryn Jordan, daughter of the late Buck Jordan and Mrs. Jordan of Laurel. Butler's parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Butler, reside at Route 2, Taylorsville, Mississippi.

Robert L. Cargill of Shawnee, Okla., has been named Director of Financial Resources for the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission in Fort Worth. Formerly Director of Development for Oklahoma Baptist University,

Bobby Walker is summer youth and activities director for First Church, Starkville. Bobby, whose home is Jackson, Miss., is a graduate of Mississippi State University and has completed a three year term in the United States Army. During the school months of the year he is attending Southwestern Seminary; while at Mississippi State, he was a B. S. U. summer missionary to Ohio and a summer youth director at First Church, West Point. Upon completing Army Officers Candidate School, he received his commission as Lieutenant in August 1968. His journey included a tour in South Vietnam where he served as the youth director of the English-speaking Trinity Church in Saigon, Vietnam, where he was ordained as a deacon and licensed to preach. On returning to the United States he was ordained to preach the Gospel by Parkway Church, Jackson.

W. D. Lofton, of Brookhaven, serves as Mississippi member of the Southern Baptist Convention Education Commission, and will attend the annual meeting of the Commission, June 19 at William Jewell College, Liberty, Missouri. He is a member of the Commission's budget committee. The Commission is the official coordinator of information concerning the 72 Southern Baptist higher educational institutions.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Erwin, missionaries to Brazil, have announced the birth of their first child, Susan Deanna, May 9. Mrs. Erwin is the former Veronica (Ronnie) Wheeler of Sandersville, Miss. Both are former Southern Baptist missionary journeymen. Their overseas address is Caixa 679, 13100 Campinas, Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Pastor Of Second Largest SBC Church Enters Business

LUBBOCK, Tex. (BP) — The pastor of the second largest church in the Southern Baptist Convention, W. David Ray, will resign June 15 to enter private business.

Ray, 38, has been pastor of the 9,672 - member First Baptist Church of Lubbock since 1967. He will become regional manager of Cosmetics International Corp., based in Amarillo, Tex.

Ray, in an interview, said he was not turning his back on his faith, and planned to continue to preach. "I have an absolutely open mind to going back into some phase of the ministry later," he said. "I'm not disappointed or disillusioned with the ministry."

He emphasized that there were no insurmountable problems in the Lubbock church or in his ministry, but he felt that at this point in his life, God was leading him back into secular work.



Bethel (Jones) Dedicates Furniture

On May 28, Bethel Church in Jones County near Sandersville dedicated

the new furniture in their church auditorium. They held a special Homecoming Day during which the pastor, Rev. W. O. Pippen, brought the morning message. Lunch was spread under the trees on the lawn, and food was enjoyed by a large number of former and present members.

Pastor Pippen says, "The fellowship around the tables meant much to everyone. We express heartfelt thanks to everyone who had a part in making our dream

come true, and for making the special day a success.

"All pieces of church furniture — pews, pulpit, communion table, sedilia, offering plates, etc. were given by different families because of their love for God and their loving memory of deceased loved ones."

Afternoon services included congregational singing; a solo by the music director, Donald Gatlin; special songs by a group of Bethel young people; and "extra special" singing by Candler Blackburn and his youth choir from Petal - Harvey Church.

State Line To Celebrate Centennial

Sunday, June 18, has been the day selected for the observation of the State Line Church Centennial Celebration.

The day's events will begin during the Sunday school hour at 10:00 a.m. Rev. J. I. Hill, a former pastor of the church, will bring the message at the 11:00 a.m. worship hour. This service will be followed by a dinner on the grounds across the street from the church. At 1:30 p.m. the afternoon session will begin, including introduction of and greetings from former pastors, reading of the history of the church, and music by the choir.

"All former pastors, members and friends of the church are urged to attend. Former choir members are invited to come and participate in the singing of the choir for th days events," states Dr. Jerry W. Gill, pastor.

The State Line Church has recorded an illustrious history in the one hundred years of its existence. Hundreds have been won to Christ through the ministry of the church. Significant contributions have been made to associational, state, and convention-wide mission efforts. Many have responded to the call to ministry and are now serving in various capacities throughout the country. The church, throughout the years of its activity, has sought to maintain an active and effective ministry to the surrounding community. The impact which this

assembly has had upon the two cannot be adequately measured," Dr. Gill continues.

The State Line Church has occupied three edifices during the past one hundred years. Plans are now in the formative stages for the construction of a new sanctuary and educational building directly across the street

from the present site. A special offering will be taken during the afternoon session so that present and former members alike may participate in the building of the new structure.

A cordial welcome is extended to all interested persons to come and participate in the celebration of the State Line Centennial.

New Musical, "Lightshine" To Be Presented June 16

The premiere performance in Mississippi of the new musical, "Lightshine," by Buryl Red will be presented Friday night, June 16, 7:30, in Thomas Hall at William Carey College, Hattiesburg. The vocal group performing the musical will be made up of youth participating in the Youth Vocal and Choral Camp at William Carey this week. Dr. Red of New York will be directing the musical and the composer of the lyrics, Grace Hawthorne, also from New York, will stage it. The youth will be singing from manuscript copies, since the musical is not off the press yet. The public is invited to attend.

"Home" Earns American Film Festival Award

NEW YORK (BP) — "Home," a 30-minute documentary on ecology, has received a blue ribbon (first place) award in the prestigious American Film Festival competition held here last week.

The film is produced by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission for their "Human Dimension" television series. It won the award in the festival's category, "The World We Live In," one of five general categories.

"The fact that the festival only awards one blue ribbon (for first place) and one red ribbon in each category makes it a coveted award by film makers," observed John C. Stevens, who produced and directed the film for the Radio and Television Commission.

YOUTH SKILLS LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP



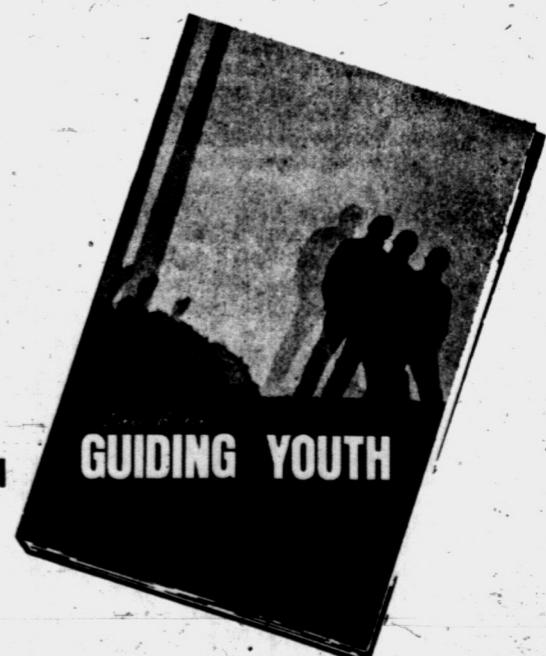
Mrs. Janet Burton
First Baptist Church
Carlsbad, New Mexico

Janet Burton, author of *GUIDING YOUTH*, will be the conference director. Mrs. Burton is a frequent faculty member at Glorieta and has written numerous lessons and articles for youth workers.

MEETINGS FROM 7 TO 9 P. M.

CHURCH	PLACE	DATE
First Baptist Church	McComb	June 19
First Baptist Church	Gulfport	June 20
First Baptist Church	Laurel	June 22
First Baptist Church	Jackson	June 23
First Baptist Church	Greenwood	June 26
First Baptist Church	Oxford	June 27
First Baptist Church	Starkville	June 29

These meetings will feature demonstrations of creative approaches to learning as discussed in *GUIDING YOUTH*.



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Meeting God Through Prayer

By Clifton J. Allen

Matthew 6:1-15

The reading of the Holy Scriptures and prayer go together. Hence these two lessons on meeting God through the Scriptures and meeting God through prayer are closely related. These are the foremost means of experiencing communion with God. It follows that the vitality of the devotional life will depend in large measure on the Christian's fidelity in reading the Scriptures and engaging in prayer. We may add that the very essence of prayer is communion with God. The passage which serves as the basis for this lesson is taken from the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus warned his disciples against the danger of hypocrisy in prayer and then gave them the "model prayer." Appropriately we call it the Lord's Prayer because it was given to us by the Lord and because it is the perfect example for the Christian's prayer life.

The Lesson Explained

IN THE SECRET PLACE (vv. 5-8)

One may pray at anytime, at any place. But a Christian is not to pray to impress the public, not to gain reputation for being religious, not to make a good impression of piety. Jesus warned against the temptation to pray like the hypocrites. Their praying was play - acting. It had no value for themselves or God. They got what they wanted: they were seen of men; that was their only reward. The further admonition of Jesus that one withdraw to a secret place to pray was not meant to require complete seclusion in prayer but to emphasize that one is to be concerned to meet God in prayer, not to be seen of men. And the quiet place, free from observation of interruption by other persons, is helpful for spiritual concentration.

Jesus gave a further very pointed word of instruction. Prayer does not require repeating phrases, saying many words, or trying to make an impression on God. Such was characteristic of the prayer of pagans. Prayer is not for the purpose of informing God or persuading God. Prayer is for communion with God — to listen to him and to speak to him with sincerity the deepest thoughts of one's innermost being.

GOD FIRST (vv. 9 - 10)

How sublime the Lord's Prayer!

PETITION FOR BLESSING (vv. 11-15)

The opening part reflects the God-ward viewpoint. We are to pray, first of all, with the concerns of God in mind. Properly, therefore, we address God as "Our Father," claiming the privileges of coming to him as the loving Father, acknowledging our dependence and relationship as his children, recognizing also that we are brothers to all who acknowledge him as Father, and wanting that his name shall be hallowed everywhere, that he himself shall be worshiped with adoration and praise. "Thy kingdom come" voices the earnest petition that God's sovereign rule shall come to fulfillment. That of course expresses a yearning that people increasingly shall acknowledge the rule of Christ by self - surrender to him and faithful obedience to him. In keeping with this desire that God be first in all things, we pray that his will may be done in all the earth as it is in heaven. God will the redemption of a lost world. He wills that righteousness and justice and peace shall fill the earth. He wills the sanctification of his people and their joy in the salvation of Christ.

Mrs. Rowden To Lead Conference For Pastors' Wives

The Tenth Annual Pastors Conference will be held July 10-14, on the New Orleans Seminary campus.

Features of the program will include studies in the Old Testament and New Testament, lectures, sermons, discussions, library study, and fellowship. By popular request, Mrs. Marjorie Rowden, director of public relations at William Carey College, will again lead the daily conference for pastors' wives.

Dr. Frank Stagg, James Buchanan Harrison, Professor of New Testament Interpretation at Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky., will lead the study in the New Testament each morning.

Bringing the Old Testament studies each evening will be Dr. George Harrison, professor of Old Testament and Hebrew at New Orleans Seminary. Dr. Jerry Weber, pastor of Dauphin Way Baptist Church, Mobile, Ala., will bring the sermon each evening.

Baptists are known as a Bible - believing people. This year, more than 300 radio stations in the United States will read one - minute Bible spots, thanks to the efforts of Baptists, working through their Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission. The spots, known as "Living Words of Today," are read by John Borders of the Commission's "Powerline" program.

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Devotional

Our Father... Hallowed Be Thy Name

By Sarah A. Rouse, Faculty, MC

After this manner therefore pray ye, Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven (Matthew 6:9-10).

The familiar and much loved prayer, which Jesus gave to his disciples can be divided easily into two parts; the first is devoted to adoration of the Father, and the second to supplications by the one praying. The emphasis here is on the first part; we too often ask favors of our heavenly Father and neglect to adore and praise Him for the unmerited blessings which he showers upon us.

Our observance of "father's day" prompts us to rethink certain abiding values. The most important of these is our relationship to God, our heavenly Father, and another is the function and responsibility of the earthly father in the home and community. God, revealed in Jesus, is a Father who loves and cares for us; at the same time, he has high standards for us and insists that we adhere to them. This insistence is one of the means by which He expresses love and concern. The earthly father fulfills his role when he, too, performs in a similar manner.

The dictionary defines "father" to be "a man who creates, founds, or originates something—a title of respect." It defines "hallowed" as "made or set apart as being holy; to be honored, revered, and adored." Jesus chose the title "father" to use in His prayer because to him it was the most appropriate one with which to reveal the eternal God to man.

God, the Father, expresses His love for us in many ways. The most important is the gift of His perfect Son who through His life and death made it possible for us to have the abundant life. In John 3:16, the apostle wrote, "For God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." And in Romans 6:23 Paul declares, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." For this precious gift, we should sincerely praise and hallow His name.

Jesus is the model of perfection toward which we all should strive. Some think the example a bit too difficult to follow; but man is made to reach up or to rise above the animal level. It is through the striving that we become more Christlike. If an earthly father, with his family, dedicates himself to follow Jesus, who symbolizes all of the qualities of God's ideal man, the abundant life will be his—and only then.

Christlikeness demands that we conduct ourselves as nearly as possible as Jesus, the Christ, did. Let us briefly point up a few of the qualities of His character which we should strive to emulate. He LOVED the Father and expressed it more meaningfully by going to the cross—"that the world may know that I love the Father...." This perfect Son could not and did COMMUNICATE well with His Father, in John 11:41-42 we read, "that thou has heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me always...." Jesus was OBEDIENT to the will of His Father; at the age of twelve, in the Temple while talking with the learned men he said, "know ye not that I must be about my Father's business." In all that he did, Jesus PLEASED the Father; at the occasion of His baptism the Father declared, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well PLEASED."

Dr. Rufus M. Jones, longtime professor of philosophy at Haverford College, tells in the last chapter of THE LUMINOUS TRAIL about overhearing his son, Lowell, and his playmates discussing what they wanted to be when they grew up. When Lowell's turn came he said, "I want to grow up and be a man like my daddy." Dr. Jones wrote that few things in his life touched him as did those words; he was inspired to dedicate himself more fully to Christ in order to be the kind of father after whom his son could justly pattern his life. Oh, that all of us were willing and wise enough to follow the pattern set by Jesus until we can sincerely say, "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth...." Then it is that we truly hallow His name.

DALLAS (BP)—Four Texas Baptist churches won communications awards here at the first of an annual series of regional church communications conferences sponsored by the church administration department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Off The Record

Accepts Call To Connecticut

Rev. Charles M. Conley, pastor of 14 years in Mississippi, is leaving to enter pioneer mission work in Connecticut. A graduate of Carson Newman College and Southern Seminary, Mr. Conley served 1st Church, Rosedale; 1st Church, Sardis; and his present pastorate, North McComb.

He served as moderator for both Panola and Bolivar counties, and has been a member of the Board of Trustees for Baptist Children's Village for seven years.

He is going to the First Baptist Church of East Hartford, Conn. It was the first Southern Baptist Church in the state and has been the mother of several new churches in its 10-year history. Metropolitan Hartford is an area of 600,000 people. This is the only Southern Baptist work in the area, and one of few evangelicals of any denomination. The church has 65 families in membership and is most active in local and outreach ministries, such as ministries to the deaf, nursing homes, coffee house, Spanish-speaking, and vacation Bible schools in many housing projects, etc. It is a most active young church.

Mr. Conley requests the prayers of Christian friends in Mississippi as he goes to this challenging new work. His address will be: 24 Barry Lane, Glastonbury, Connecticut 06033.

What Else!

The boss was exasperated with his new secretary. She ignored the telephone when it rang. Finally he said: "You must answer the phone."

"OK," she replied with disgust in her voice. "But it's so silly. Nine times out of ten it's for you."

Well...

Testing a Sunday school class, the minister asked, "What are the sins of omission, my child?"

Little Joe replied, "They are the sins we ought to commit and don't."

—Sunshine Magazine

Belgian Baptists Increase Language Group Work

BRUSSELS (BP)—Belgian Baptists will increase their witness among German-speaking and Dutch-speaking citizens, according to announcements made during a meeting of the European Baptist Federation's committee for Belgium.

A lay missionary couple, Mr. and Mrs. Rainer Alexander of Bochum, Germany, will move to Belgium and continue Baptist work with German-speaking people in Eupen, near the German border.

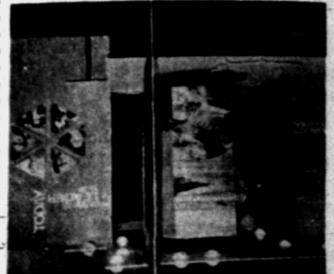
On May 21, Trinity Church, of Fulton, began a church bus ministry. This work was begun after much prayer and consideration and the early results are very gratifying. The second Sunday the bus was used the number of riders almost doubled and the number continues to increase. The bus is a used school bus which has been completely renovated with new motor, new paint and new seats. It is now in excellent condition and will be used for transportation to the church services as well as group trips. Pictured are the bus ministry personnel, Bus Committee, driver assistant driver, bus hostesses and the pastor, Rev. Horace C. Thomas.

Trinity Church, Fulton, Begins Bus Ministry



The Church Training Department's mobile lab — Dr. and Mrs. Robert Hamblin of Tupelo at right.

Convention Exhibits



The six seminaries of the SBC.



American Bible Society exhibit.



Chaplain's Commission exhibit.



Mississippi College exhibit — Dr. and Mrs. James Sullivan talk with Norman Gough, director of public information at MC. Dr. Sullivan, former Mississippian, is executive secretary, BSSB.



Home Mission Board exhibit.



Pennsylvania — South Jersey Convention exhibit.



Historical Commission Exhibit — At left is Dr. Fred Moseley, native of Mississippi and associate executive secretary, Home Mission Board.



Charter Member Honored

Memphis Choir To Sing At MC On June 19

The "NEW LIFE SINGERS," Senior High Choir, of First Church, Memphis, Tennessee, will present "SHOW ME — JESUS" by Jimmy and Carol Owens at Miss. College in Nelson Hall at 8:00 p.m. on June 19.

The "New Life Singers" began touring ten years ago and have toured in eighteen states. Last year they premiered "Show Me — Jesus" before 11,000 people.

"Show Me — Jesus" is the story of Joey. Joey is a boy — any boy, any color, from anywhere — who has "a big, empty nothin'" right in the middle of his soul.

Mrs. Clark Honea, President of Baptist Women, made a few remarks, and Mrs. Helen Beckner presented Miss Belle with an orchid corsage and a WMU pin in recognition of her work with the WMU. Mrs. C. O. Stogner, presented her with a box of candy, a gift from Miss Belle's Sunday School Class.

Mrs. Beckner gave a review of the life of Miss Belle, pointing out the significant contribution she has made to the Missionary program of the church, to her church, and to the community in which she lives.

"Miss Belle organized the first Sunbeam Band in the church. She still attends church and WMU meetings when her health and the weather condition permits," states Mrs. T. B. Magee, Director, WMU, Tylertown Church.

The Revelation left Jackson on June 9 for a two-week singing and mission tour to Germany, Switzerland, England and France. The young people will conduct vacation Bible school in three churches in Germany—Immanuel Baptist Church, Weisbaden; Rhein Valley, Waldorf and Darmstadt Baptist at Darmstadt.

They will sing for the European Convention in Frankfurt, European Baptist Youth Rally in the chapel at Weisbaden Air Base, in addition to several town hall concerts in various cities.

Under the direction of Larry Black, minister of music at First Church, The Revelation will sing selections from their recent production of "Love" and from last year's presentation of "Natural High." The handbell ringers will also perform.

The Revelation members have sung together for 18 months. Last summer, they toured several states in the midwest and Canada.

Black said, "They are a group of God's young people who sing together, work together, play together, and pray together." He emphasized that everyone who was going to Europe had completed special training in personal witnessing and a course in conducting Bible school.

From the church staff, those mak-

Church Music Conferences Set At SBC Assemblies

First Baptist Church, Richmond, Va., will serve as pastor for the Ridgecrest conference.

Dale Cowling, pastor, Second Baptist Church, Little Rock, Ark., will be conference pastor at Glorieta.

Conference choir director will be Warren M. Angell at both Ridgecrest and Glorieta conferences.

Wesley Forbis, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., will direct the oratorio choir in performing a major work by Felix Mendelssohn at Ridgecrest. Mr. Forbis will also be at Glorieta. H. Max Smith, a dean of Honors College, Appalachian State University, Boone, N. C., will be Ridgecrest conference organist.

Max Lyall, associate professor of music, Belmont College, Nashville, Tenn., will be pianist at the Ridgecrest conference.

Other Ridgecrest program personalities include Francis Aronoff, specialist, music education for children, New York University and Gordon Young, noted American organist and composer.

Jo Ann Shelton will give a sacred music concert at both assemblies. Also, "Celebrate Life," a musical-pulpit drama by Ragan Courtney and Buryl Red will be performed at both assemblies.

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